

C. Lynch, *Burkes and Jasper's Pound, Doora, County Clare* (Texas, USA; 2013)

Family Histories, County Clare Library

URL: https://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/coclare/genealogy/don_tran/fam_his/burkes_jaspers_pound.htm

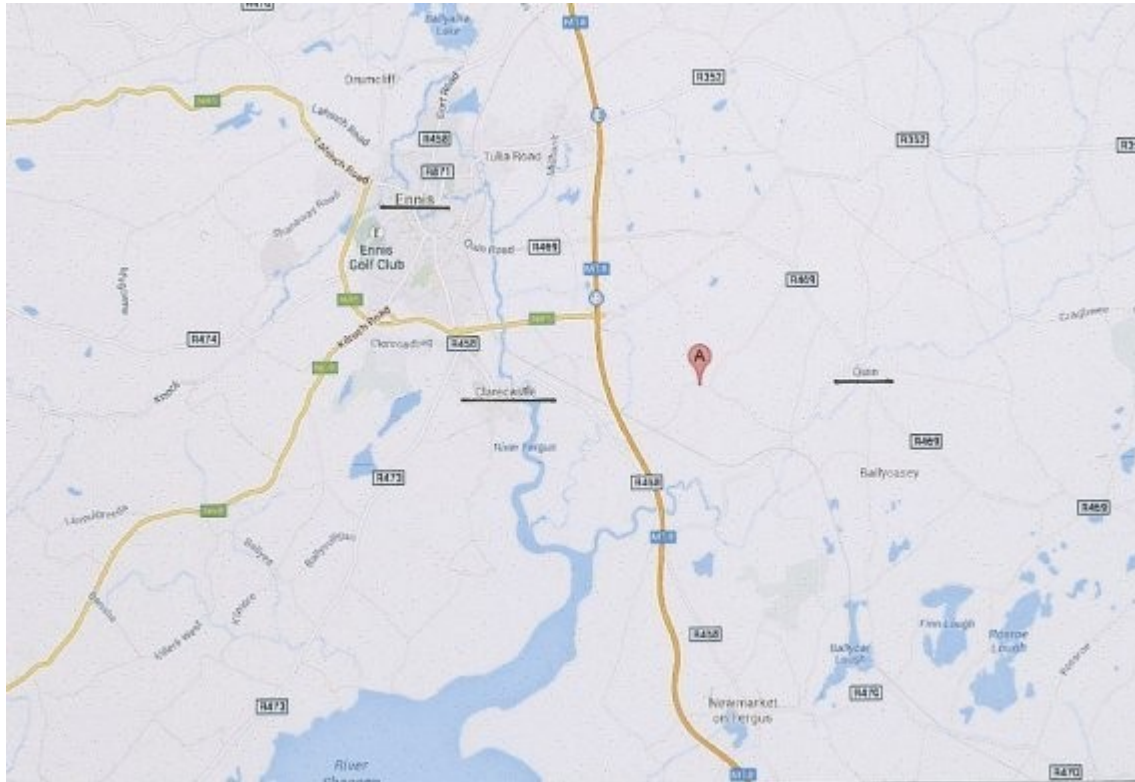


Fig. A: Jasper's Pound in relation to Ennis, Clarecastle and Quin from Google Maps

This overview is compiled to help future researchers find early Jasper's Pound surrounding today's Jasper's Bridge.

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Jasper's Pound: is 450M from Deerpark in Doora, County Clare, Munster, Ireland. Jasper's Pound is the name of the former Townland that surrounded Jasper's Bridge and is located between Ennis and Quin in County Clare. (Fig. B).

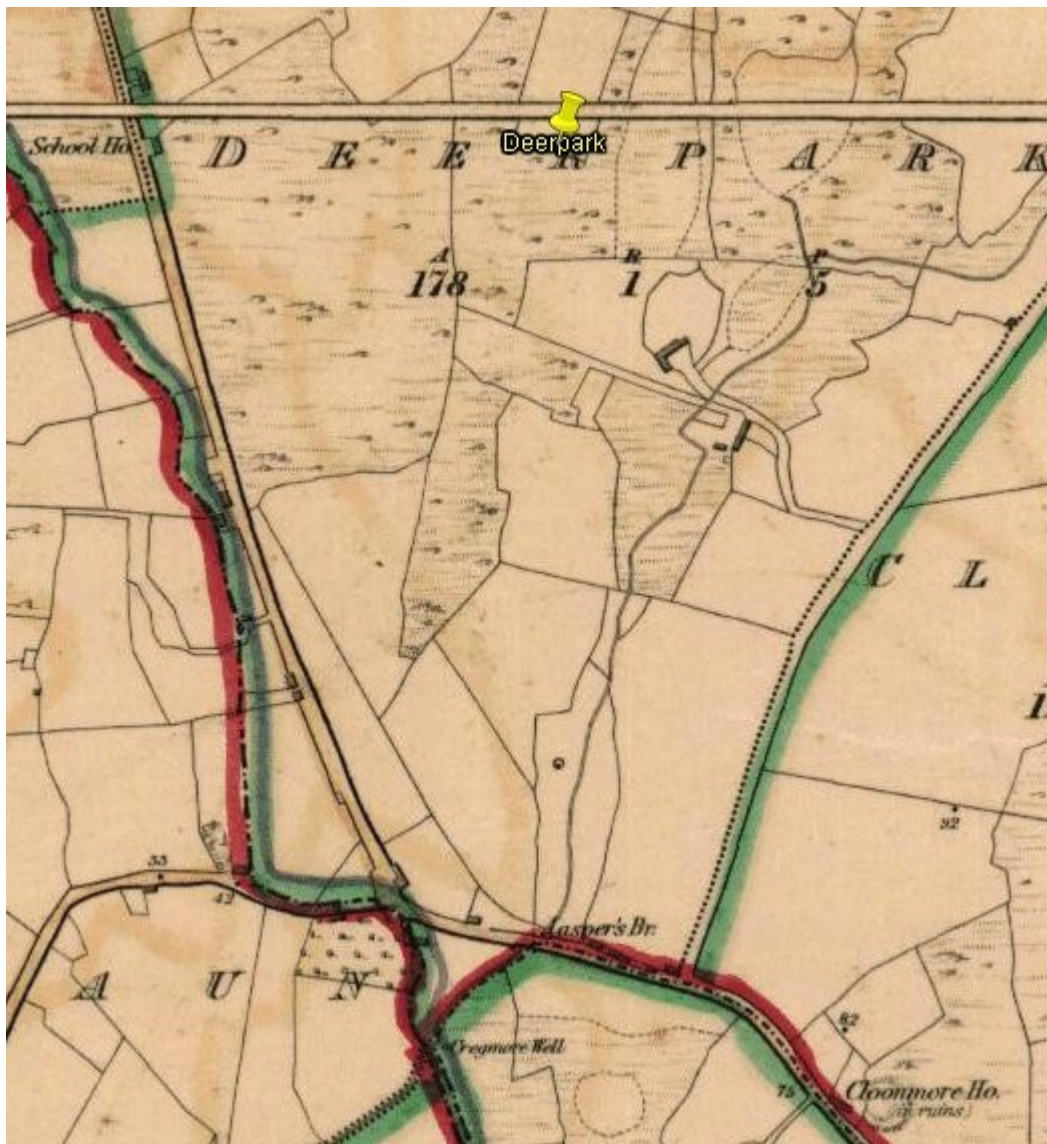


Fig. B: Jasper's Bridge on the 1842 Ordnance Survey Maps

Established: 1500s in Doora, County Clare by John Baptiste Jasper a merchant from The Strand London & Rotterdam. It is not known why he settled in Ballycase, Ireland, nor how he acquired Clare property, however it came about, Jasper's Pound territory assumed his name and was prominently identified in early periods as a Townland, Fair Town or Brae.



Fig. C: Jasper's Pound - seen here on the right-hand side - from the Grand Jury Maps 1787

Jasper's Pound is prominent and large on the 1787 Grand Jury Map with a large land mass (Fig. C), in Leet's Directory, 1814, in the Tithe Applotment Books, and in the Irish Education Enquiry, 1824. The name is also listed in unrelated family trees 1823+; in 1823 / 1837 Ireland Territorial records from the 1600s going forward. In August 2013 this researcher took a virtual "Google" tour of Jasper's Pound land - traveling over the Jasper's Pound Bridge. After entering Jasper's Pound near Jasper's Bridge (Fig. D, below) you can travel on the east / west road leading in and out of Jasper Pound, or on another road north to Deerpark from an intersect at the east / west road passing over "The Old Jasper's Toll Bridge". The options will take you to Cloonmore and Quin, or in the opposite direction to Ballyvonnavaun and Clarecastle, or if north to Deerpark, 450M or 1/4 mile away. The topography appears to make time stand still. Except for parcel ownership change over time Jasper's Pound landscape, ignoring the tear-downs remains as imagined in early beginnings; i.e., lush green / limited construction. The Bridge is set by name on the 1842 Ordnance Map (Fig. B) and the photograph by Declan Barron on the Clare Library website (Fig. D).



Fig. D: Jasper's Bridge. Photo: Declan Barron

Boundaries: Cross Doora, Clareabbey and Quin Parishes; separate Deerpark from Kilawinna. Jasper's Pound for a long period of time was the Townland, then when the 1641 Irish Rebellion started it changed Ireland land ownership and Jasper's Pound as well. Changes set Jasper's Pound on a path to Sub-Townland within Deerpark, eventually morphing all into Deerpark Townland. Some 226-year old documents confirm Jasper's Pound, Dowrie (Doora) was a viable a stand-alone Townland. Sources; e.g., The 1824 Irish Education Enquiry set a 60+ student school; the 1823-1837 Territorial Records list both Jasper's Pound and Deerpark Townlands; then Ballyvonnavaun & Jasper's Inn, Clareabbey are listed as a separate geographic location.

Documentation: Wilson's 'Fair Towns of Ireland, 1834' lists Jasper's Pound as a Fair Town by formal confirmation by 'The Honorable House of Commons' March 10, 1824 when they recognized Jasper's Pound and other communities by order that places a value return on all places where Customs, Tolls or Duties are levied at Markets, Fairs and Ports in Ireland; i.e., Jasper's Pound. "The House of Commons" granted Jasper's Pound a Letter of Patent Order to verify its standing. The last Jasper's Pound Fair Dates are in "The Fairs of Munster", 1843 County and City of Cork Almanac. A fair designation was important because it sets locations for outside inhabitants/vendors to sell, buy, produce and exchange goods - boost economies.

Material Events: By 1836 Jasper's Pound starts to morph into a Sub-Townland of Deerpark Townland, however continues to operate independently up to 1843. When viewing the 1842 Ordnance Map note the Jasper's Pound Townland no longer exists by name or is carried on Ordnance Maps going forward, the only "Jasper" name that appears is "The Jasper's Toll Bridge". That aside; you still find Jasper's Pound by name in 2013 when searching early Tithe reports under either Doora or Ballyvonnavaun.

The following paragraphs will expand on the holdings of Sir John Jasper and daughter Margaret in County Clare, Ireland, a result of identifying property outside of that in Jasper's Pound; e. g., facts gleaned from 1626 land surveys of Thomond Property, The Barony of Bunratty - other sources. The Thomond records confirm rental due The 5th Earl of Thomond (1589-1639) at 1450 pounds per annum, paid by 148 Tenants of which comprise 5% Dutch and 42% English settlers; and 50% native Irish settlers. During this period native Irish ownership dropped considerably due to the forced Irish evacuation by The Earl of Thomond off prime land - then installing a new tenant base made-up from the Dutch Majority based in /around Six Mile. Original Thomond records reside in the Petworth House Archives, Sussex, UK and are documented in the Clare Library. It was recorded that per-quarter rental from most occupiers of land paid The Earl of Thomond on average 3 to 6- pounds which is in sharp contrast to Sir John Jasper (Jasper's Bridge) rent from high-value prime land in Jasper's Pound Townland, Doora and Ballicassey and Tulliverga Townlands, Drumline (near Shannon Airport) set at 15-pounds per quarter. Note: Jasper's Pound Townland, Doora while reasonably close to Ballicassey and Tulliverga Townlands and controlled concurrently during this period by John Jasper is not listed in the 1626 document. The document identifies John Jasper's Rynan (Rineanna), Ballycassey (Ballycasey) and Tulliverga (Tullyvarrga), Drumline holdings in adjacent order with payments of xxx and xx "Due every Gale" from John Jasper. The term "Gale" defines any periodic reservation of rent be it quarterly, half-year or yearly that accrues day to day from the end of the previous "Gale" to the current "Gale". Note: review of the 1659 Census compiled well after the 1641 Irish Rebellion records a much different mix of Dutch and English settlers than that identified in the 1626 Thomond Survey - later years; i. e., 2.6% of the population, mainly clustered around newly formed borough towns Kilrush, Ennis and Sixmilebridge - Ballykeellaun situate in SE Clare north of Limerick. Further review of 1642 historical records finds Irish Catholics controlled 2/3 of Ireland - period doc's 1641-1659 put Irish Catholic land ownership at 60%.

When the 1641 Irish Rebellion commenced John Jasper's original holdings of "Jasper's Bridge" and land in Jasper's Pound, Rineanna, Balleycasey and Tullyvarrga belonged to Margaret Jasper Van der Schuren; Alt. Schurer and Vanderscuden, the married daughter of Sir John Jasper. Note: variations of her married name were captured as is from various historical documents viewed, the last in the abstracts of Probate Acts in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Anno 1642. In 1642 Margaret the "relict" (widow) filed her dead husbands will. In the filing she lists her deceased husband as Nicasius Vanderscuden of Six Mile Bridge, County Clare, Ireland; and her address as 119 Campbell. Her holdings at that time est. at 7,436.19s 6d pounds, a very substantial sum in that day and age. Although Margaret has been identified as English Protestant or Dutch, it is more likely she was Anglo-Irish. It is noted in history that as a young child she lived near Bunratty Castle with her family and many times would stay overnight in the Castle.

Ownership aside the management of "Jasper's Bridge" and other Townland holdings remained with her father after he willed all to his daughter Margaret. At and during the marriage of Margaret - later he lived in Six Mile, of which held a Protestant

majority. Her father, Sir John (Jan Baptiste) Jasper (b) 1595 in Rotterdam, although many state Alt. (b) Ballycase, Ireland situate 2-irish miles from Six Mile Bridge and 8-miles irish miles from Limerick near Bunratty Castle. A location later confirmed by Thomas Moland in the Survey of the Thomond Estate, 1703; and noted in "The Strangers Gaze, Travels in County Clare 1534-1950". In 1703 Ballycase land when surveyed set 211a 1r 16p. with one farm house and 13-14 cabins. Continued review of 17th Century land divisions on period maps; e. g., Johnston's Map in the Book of Survey and Distribution re: Drumline set Ballycase / Ballycasey within Ballycasey More (large) and Ballycasey Beg (small), whereas, other maps for the same period set it under Ballycassee and Ballicassee. All accurately named for the period. In the Book of Survey and Distribution it also records the occupiers of land 1641+ (after Margaret fled to England) without any named Jasper's or Van der Schuren's present or holding title to Ballicase, Tullyvaragh and Ballycase Townlands. It also sets AP acreage (arable and pasture) of each as Ballicase 197a; Tullyvaragh 125a; and Ballycase 103a.

History records Sir John's family landed in Ireland pre 1602. Sir John (d) 1692 when 100 years old and is buried in Ballycase, Ireland, Drumline Parish, Co. Clare, Ire. If his age at death is accurate his birth date is 1592. In historical documents the location of Ballycase remains constant even though identified under spelling variations. Note: the writer entered actual spellings of Ballycase from documents as each appeared when found. Ballycase is a derivation of Ballycasey from the Gaelic spelling "Ballycassee" or "Bail Casaidh". We know "Baile" is the root name in Ballycasey, however, the surname "Casey" cannot be explained. On early maps you find other versions of Balleycasey; e.g., "Ballycafe" or "Ballicaffy" both accurate for the period; and in the 1626 Census "Ballicassey". By 1842 the Ordnance Maps set Ballycase / Ballycasey by name as adjacent Townlands solely under Ballycasey-Mor (greater or larger) and Ballycasey-Beg (lesser or smaller), Drumline Parish still located between Newmarket-on-Fergus and Sixmilebridge. Note: Ambrose Leet's 1814 Directory for County Clare lists both Ballycasey post towns as Newmarket-on-Fergus.

Sir John was reported to be a Merchant from Ballycase, Ireland and The Strand, London. When in London he was in residence at Chigwell in Essex. He was known to be a "prolific purchaser of confiscated royal goods". When first researching in Ireland the writer identified Sir John's Clare holdings solely as "Jasper's Bridge / Jasper's Pound, Doora and Rineanna, Kilconry (near Shannon Airport), then add'l doc's expanded the search to uncover significant Jasper holdings in Ballicasse and Tulliverga Townlands, Drumline, close to New Market, Six Mile and Bunratty.

Margaret's first husband Nicasius Van der Schuren was a Dutch émigré who settled in Kilconry, Kilrush and owned lands in his own right. He is identified as one of the 4th Earl of Thomond's Protestant Planters. The impact of Plantations and Colonization in Ireland were a major underlying problem that triggered the 1641 Irish uprising. Nicasius was killed during this uprising, then Margaret Jasper Van der Schuren (his wife) inherited all of his land. She immediately fled to Bunratty then on to London leaving all holdings unattended. Bunratty Castle was built in 1251 then, as time passed, the castle experienced major rebuilding due to intentional fires set and war. The Castle

is situate near Sixmilebridge and Limerick in Co. Clare. In early adulthood Margaret was willed "Jasper's Bridge" and Rineanna land (Shannon Airport) with other holdings in Ballicasse and Tullyvaragh; later she inherited her husband's holdings upon his death in 1641. Note: after Margaret abandoned Ireland for London on 1642 November 15 she filed a will in the Abstracts of Probate Acts in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury identifying her husband as Vandescuden, Nicasius of Six Mile Bridge, Co. Clare, Ireland, merchant. She filed to legally claim the very substantial holdings, estimated at 7,436.19s. 6d pounds. Her address is given as 119 Campbell. Problem: all land was confiscated. In England, June 6, 1643 Margaret married Capt. William Penn at St. Martin's, Ludgate, England. The marriage is recorded in the City of London, Guildhall, performed by Dr. Dyke, Lecturer, witnessed by Mr. Roach, Churchwarden. Margaret and the future Admiral Penn became parents of Quaker Wm Penn on October 14, 1644 (the future founder of Pennsylvania, U.S.A). During her long absence from Ireland the Jasper, Rineanna and inherited lands were either sold or confiscated by occupiers, then sold or given to Sir Donat O'Brien son of Col. Conor O'Brien and his wife the notorious Mary Mac Mahon (Maureen Rhue) who played a major role in 1641 uprisings. Note: the writer does not elaborate on Sir Donat O'Brien or Wm. Penn history unless related to Jasper's Pound.

Maps:

When viewing Deerpark and Jasper's Pound note Doora, Clareabbey and Quin parishes held Deerpark Townland / Jasper's Pound in part and still do. Land viewed on Maps after 1787 appear to set smaller boundaries. And territories on the older Maps when matched to 2013 Google Maps are still consistent re: land mass and boundaries with the 1787 Grand jury Map (Fig. C, above), 1842 Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. B, above) and the 1888 Ordnance Survey Map. It confirms Deerpark Townland did not exist at the time Jasper's Pound Townland was formed and only later did Deerpark emerge to co-exist with Jasper's Pound as a Townland, later absorbing Jasper's Pound in total. Deerpark / Jasper's Pound Townlands always pass through or border Clareabbey, Quin, Cloonmore and Killawinna (never contained by one parish). When quantifying Jasper's Pound and Deerpark Townlands it is suggested you first view historical maps, then overlay a current "Google" Deerpark Townland Map. You will find Jasper's Pound topography is basically the same re: land and parishes. Next understand distance viewed on older maps sets the impression all is greater than the true distance, true distance is miniscule, enlarged for the viewer.

Recap:

Early records consistently document Jasper's Pound as a Townland and Fair Town before and after 1787. By 1843 both designations disappeared and Jasper's Pound emerged as a Sub-Townland of Deerpark Townland. Going forward Deerpark is the Townland on Ordnance Maps. Why Deerpark emerged over Jasper's Pound the once thriving Townland of the day is not known. At one point Jasper's Pound and Deerpark were equal, then Jasper's Pound was designated as a Sub-Townland in Deerpark, in the end Jasper's Pound Townland disappeared altogether, setting Deerpark the only Townland. Even so, Jasper's Pound continued to be identified; e. g., in "The Saturday

Record", May 1927 listing Jasper's Pound, Ballyvonnavaun land for sale on a public road near Manus-more Cross and Jasper's Pound, 4 miles from Ennis.



Fig E: From A new general atlas by S. Hall, 1830 © Cartography Associates

As stated earlier Jasper's Pound was given life by John (Jan Baptiste) Jasper. His Jasper namesake was later expanded by his son Sir John (Jan Baptiste) Jasper(b) 1595; Alt. (b) 1602, Ballycase, Ireland; (d) 1692, Ballycase, Ireland. The Jaspers were wealthy Protestant Merchants in Co. Clare, London and The Netherlands. Sr. Jasper was known as The Burgomaster; i.e., Magistrate, Mayor or Master of The Town. Sr. John Jasper married Alet (Marie) Pletjes from Kempen, Prussia a marriage documented in The Pennsylvania Chronicles, USA by reference to a Dutch Reformed Church certificate August 28, 1643, Austin Friars, London. Originally penned by the Six-Mile Bridge, Clare Minister, Rev. Andrew Chaplin, who led the Six-Mile Bridge congregation before the Irish Rebellion. Rev. Chaplin also lists John Jasper of Ballycase living at Six-Mile Bridge, Clare with wife Marie. And pens Sir John's daughter Margaret is lawfully married according to rites of the Church of England to Nicasius Van der Shure. Marie Pletjes is buried at Ballycastle, Connaught, Ireland. Records reflect the Jaspers traveled often between Ireland and England, maintaining homes in both countries, and Sir John continued managing the "Jasper's Toll Bridge" and other ventures in Clare. Sir John and Alet Marie had 3-children of which our focus is solely on daughter Margaret re: Jasper's Pound. Margaret Jasper (b) Canterbury, Kent, England; Alt. 1610 Wanstead, Essex, England (d) Feb / Mar 1682, Ireland; Alt. Walthamstow, Essex, England. She is buried at Walthamstow, England near Penn's old residence. Margaret at a young age was willed from her father Jasper's Bridge with surrounding Jasper's Pound land and Rineanna land (Shannon Airport) near the Shannon River. The Jasper's Pound community continued to grow up to 1840 with many families in residence, confirmed

as such in the 1824 Irish Education Enquiry naming a local school teaching 60 Protestant-Catholic students, taught by Master Michael Cody. Two noted cartographers highlighted the relevance of Jasper's Pound in County Clare when they included "Jasper" after identifying important locations, then mapping all of Ireland - in 1830 (Fig E, above) and 1853 (Fig F, below). Margaret Jasper first married Nicasius Van der Shure; Alt. Schurren, a Dutchman, living in Kilconrie (Kilconry), Kilrush Parish in or before 1631; Alt. 1641, Kilrush, Clare, Ireland. He was a merchant from Rotterdam Netherlands, based in Ballycase, County Clare. Note: the writer is unable to find "Ballycase", however, finds during this period a close spelling match to "Ballycasey More" and "Ballycasey Beg" both of which are located between Rineanna and Six-Mile Bridge. The name derivation Ballycase may be from a root word Ballycasey or the Gaelic "Ballycasse" / "Baile Casaidh". Also consider that Jasper holdings and their Six-Mile living site make a very strong case "Ballycase" is "Ballycasey or "Ballycasse" is "Ballycasey Beg or Ballycasey More".



Fig F: From Allgemeiner Hand-Atlas by C.F. Weiland, 1853 © Cartography Associates

Margaret's first husband Nicalsus was a Protestant from the Rhine Valley thought to be Anglo-Irish or English by race who relocated to Ireland to escape the 30-year war (1618-1648) in Europe. He settled in Kilconry, Kilrush, later killed during the 1641 Irish Rebellion. A war fought because large scale "Plantations and Colonization" forcibly captured land from native Irish. Upon his death Margaret inherited his Kilconry estate then combined it with her Jasper's Pound, Jasper's Bridge and Rineanna holdings. However; looming rebellion pressures, secret societies and mass disposition of Catholic land ownership by privileged Protestant Anglo-Norman Kinsman from England and Scotland triggered her immediate flight from Kilrush to Bunratty in Clare, thence to England by 1642, abandoning all holdings. During her absence Jasper's

Bridge; Jasper's Pound and Rineanna land with her inherited holdings were either confiscated / granted to occupiers who-in-turn sold or turned over all to Sir Donat O'Brien a major player in the 1641 uprising who later emerged as a leader in The Irish Parliament 1695-1713. Margaret never received compensation, legal disposition nor return of Jasper's Bridge, Jasper's Pound, Rineanna or other holdings, even-though she returned in 1646 with her new husband Admiral Wm. Penn to re-claim ownership of all. In London, Margaret Jasper Van der Shure, the gay widow married Capt. William Penn who later became Admiral William Penn. She married Capt. Penn in St. Martin, Ludgate, London, June 6, 1643 and brought to this marriage Irish lands valued at more than 8000 pounds. On April 21, 1646 Admiral Penn returned to Ireland landing first at Rineanna where he killed 30-Irish whom he considered "Rouges" who had expelled his wife and stolen her lands, still occupying them. Without resolution re: holdings, by 1653 Adm. Penn set forth a petition to Oliver Cromwell for return and restitution of Dame Margaret's land. September 1, 1654 the Council (The Diarist Samuel Pepy's 17th Century London Diary) and The Lord-Deputy passed an order granting 300 pounds per annum as the value of same worth of lands in 1640. This order by the Protector December 4, 1654 directed Admiral Penn and Dame Margaret to be compensated with forfeited Ireland land; i. e., Castle and Estate of Macrump, Cork, Ireland, a possession of Lord Muskerry whom Penn fought at Bunratty, the Commander of Royal and Irish forces (Catholic). By 1657 Admiral Penn held Macrump with acquired Killcrea property. However; at the Restoration Macrump was transferred to The Earl of Clancarty (Muskerry) and Admiral Penn and Dame Margaret were compensated with Shanagarry and Klonakilty, Co. Cork. Note: Sir Wm. Penn was knighted at the Restoration.